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191

E

E 3584

2

PALESTINE

30 APR

Registry Number } E3584/48/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

M. Holman

Bucharest.

1442.

29 Apr 1947

30 - -

Alleged Immigration Rumour.  
 Rufen Buchart tel 419 (E3370/48/21)  
 Rumour purches, the movement of  
 Jews from Romania into Hungary  
 en route for Palestine.

Last Paper.

3582.

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

H. Digham, etc

Doddle }  
 Smith } Admty

Lester M11

Goney

✓ May 1

P.T.O.

(Action completed.)

P. 20/5

(Index)

1947

Next Paper.

E 3612

(Minutes.)

I wonder where they will go  
 from Hungary - presumably to  
 the Adriatic coast?

Copy to { Belgrade  
 Home.

Southern Dept.

M.S. Bevis  
 May 1st

HB, May 19

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 Reference: FO 371 / 61806







192

E

E 3612

5

1947

L MAY

Registry Number } E3612/215/31.

TELEGRAM FROM

Mr. Molman

No.

Beckhardt.

Dated

443.

Received in Registry

29 April 1947

1 May 1947

Illegal Immigration, Romania  
 Report Beckhardt tel 442 (E 3584/45/21) states  
 letter already quoted also alleges that very  
 heavy pressure is being brought to bear  
 upon I.R.O. of Unemployed Social Dist. Center  
 in New York, and upon the European rep.  
 in Stockholm to appoint Mr. KHARIMAN as A.S.D.C.  
 rep. of Romania in place of THORSON.

Last Paper.

3584

References.

(Minutes.)

Refugee Dept. for obs.

H.S. Sims  
May 15

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/10/47 Lam C.D.

Dodd's Smith adv.

Farney

Johert

M.I.I.

Signed

May 1

P.J.O.

(Action completed.)

P.J.O.

(Index.)

P.J.O.

Next Paper.

E 3622

The last paragraph of this telegram might be made use  
 of to show the connection between the Revisionists and  
 the Communists. This might lead to a cooling of U.S. support  
 for the ATDC if it shows itself too acquiescent in the  
 accommodating to the Revisionists.  
 It might be useful to inform Sir G. Rendel in Geneva  
 of these events in order that, when our proposals  
 about the transfer to IRO of the I.G.'s responsibilities  
 under the Paris Agreement come up, he may be able to point  
 out to the Americans that the logical consequence of  
 letting the ATDC have funds from reparations is the  
 strengthening of extremist elements. This matter might  
 also be brought to the notice of the U.S. authorities in Germany & Austria. 3  
 W.W. Wilkinson 5

Should we report this to Washington  
 and Geneva with Mr. Wilkinson's  
 suggestion, which I think should  
 be adopted? The link is not very  
 clear however  
 H.S. Sims  
 May 5

32008 F.O.P.

Drafts to Washn.

2 Geneva JBman 10 w/he

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Reference:

FO

371

61806

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6 The question of preventing ATDC from receiving funds under the Paris Agreement on Reparations is temporarily in abeyance and I suggest that we should not press this particular point until the matter has been settled at a high level.

AW Wilkinson<sup>12</sup>  
AWH WILKINSON 5

(D. Brown)  
13/5

H. S. Beint  
May 19

AG  
19/5

Dpt. Pharmacy  
A. Yan  
(Secret & Confidential)  
✓ May 19

2/10/10

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Handwritten scribble

61806

Registry  
No. E 3612/48/31  
J.E.G.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft.

Sir George  
Rendel,  
U.K. Delegation,  
Geneva.

From:  
Mr. Baxter.

*the Refugee Dept.  
have suggested  
that*

*10 May 10*

*Please see minute*

*Refugee Dept find*

*RJ  
10/5*

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

9th May, 1947.

I enclose a copy of Bucharest telegram  
No. 443 about the A.J.D.C.'s representation  
in Rumania.

You will notice that the Communist  
Secret Police are reported to have refused  
travelling facilities to Jacobson, a member  
of the A.J.D.C. who is said always to have  
opposed overt collaboration with Extremists,  
in favour of Klarman, a Revisionist. This  
suggests that the Revisionists are actively  
supported by the Communists.

*discussing*  
when our proposals about the transfer  
to I.R.O. of the I.A.C.'s responsibilities  
under the Paris Agreement, this information  
may possibly enable you to point out to the  
Americans that the logical consequences of  
allowing the A.J.D.C. to have funds from  
reparations would be ~~the~~ strengthening of  
*to Communist*  
Extremist elements. In view of the present  
U.S. attitude towards Communism you may find  
this a helpful talking point.

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(13555) Wt. 4.5600-114 200mm 2/47 G.S.H. Gp. 620

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61806

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Registry  
No. E 3612/48/31

J.E.C.  
~~Top Secret.~~  
~~Secret.~~  
Confidential.  
~~Restricted~~  
~~Secret~~

*Draft.*

The Chancery,  
Washington.

From:  
Eastern Dept.

*JB May 10*

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

(18555) Wt. 49698-114 200m 2/47 G.S.St. Cp. 620

+OC OUT FILE 13  
FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1. 9

9th May, 1947,  
19

Dear Chancery,

We enclose a copy of Bucharest telegram No. 443 about <sup>the</sup> A.J.D.C.'s representation in Rumania.

You will notice that the Communist Secret Police are reported to have refused travelling facilities to Jacobson, a member of the A.J.D.C. who is said always to have opposed overt collaboration with the Extremists, in favour of Klarman, a <sup>si</sup> Revisionist. This suggests that the <sup>si</sup> Revisionists are actively supported by the Communists and the information may possibly be of use to you as a talking point with U.S. officials, in view of the present U.S. attitude towards Communism.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.


*Rd  
Vist*

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103. 1947	Palestine EASTERN	E3632 /G 11 1 MAY 1947
E 3632 /48/G Athens Chancery to Eastern Department 46/93/47 April 23rd.	Illegal Immigration.	
Last Paper. E3582 (E3379)	(Minutes.)	
References. E 2044. E2249/48/G E1807/48/G E2644/48/G	This will be met by suggestions now being prepared by the IIA (Mr. Higham in particular). We have replied to the letter of Feb. 21st	
(Print.)	<del>20 May 20th</del> JB May 8 	
(How disposed of.)		
(Action completed.) JFA/6	(Index.) WGH	
Next Paper.		
E3667 (E4361)		

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Reference: **FO 371** / 61806

1 MAY 1947

12

BRITISH EMBASSY,

ATHENS.

23rd April 1947.

46/93/47

E-3632

Dear Department,

With reference to Foreign Office telegram No. 725 about the illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine, you will by now have received a copy of the Note No. 127 which, as instructed, the Ambassador addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the 1st April. You will also have seen M. Tsaldaris's reply to that Note, and our rejoinder thereto, in which we have again requested the cancellation of registration of the three vessels named in your telegram under reference. We are now writing to you in order to pass on a considerable amount of information on the shipping side of the Jew traffic, which has been compiled by H.M. Consul at Piraeus. We enclose several extracts from his reports from which you will see that certain Greek shipping circles appear to be extremely heavily mixed up in the trade.

In paragraph 3 of your telegram No. 606 of the 15th March, you told us that you would be telegraphing particulars of methods for checking this illegal traffic which we might suggest to the Greek Government. We should be glad to know whether we could now be informed of these methods, and whether there is anything useful that we can do on the basis of such information as has been supplied by Piraeus; we should also be grateful if you could reply at the same time to the request for guidance in our letter 46/49/47 of 21st February. We do not consider that it is of any use to continue making representations to the Greeks in general terms, as such approaches simply produce yet another rather fulsome Note promising every co-operation. So many Greeks (among them, no doubt, Government officials) appear to be mixed up in this business, that we do not really believe that it is ever going to be possible to get the Greek Government to take effective preventive steps. Definite and detailed suggestions as to how they can help should, however, hold out more hope of success; we therefore hope that you will be able to instruct us in detail as to what we should do, as you have already done in the particular case of the three ships named in your telegram No. 725.

Apart from this, we presume that any information we can provide should be reported to you in order that there may be some chance of arresting immigration vessels upon their arrival in Palestinian waters.

Yours ever,

CHANCERY.

The Eastern Department,  
Foreign Office,  
S.W.1.

E2249

E.807

E2644

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22nd March 1947.

XXXXXXX

XXXXXXX

XXXXXXX

Maris and Gounaris of Megaron Economou, owners of the Panamanian "Euthalia" which is plying between Marseilles/Alexandria/Piraeus, have now purchased another vessel of the same type and have given her the name "Laconia".

She arrived here on the 20th March, 1947, and seven of the crew were British and four Portuguese. All eleven have been shipped by the s.s. "Euthalia" to Marseilles on the 21st March, 1947.

The ship is nominally registered as the property of the Meshades Societe Anonima of Panama. She is a corvette of 196' x 30' and can do about 16 knots. She can accommodate 200 passengers 'tweendecks, but without sleeping accommodation.

XXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXX

8th April 1947.

I pass this information - sources reliable. I have not been able, with my limited means, to obtain names and particulars of the Jewish Group.

I understand, however, it is the same in every case and a gentleman who has been very active, takes a prominent part in Greek War Relief. I also understand that there are three American Jews who have established a HQ in Piraeus where material, stores, etc., is being purchased, collected and stored.

I have no details beyond the fact that the above organisation is reported to be in existence.

With reference to the Maris Group; my informant's information is that the corvette conversions, together with purchase price, is being financed by sources outside the Company, but that the Company is obtaining enough pickings to be hoping, eventually, to finance the yachts which they apparently will be keeping. The corvettes going elsewhere.

The members of the Company are reported, individually and collectively, completely without scruples and ready to make money, provided there is no personal risk attached.

XXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXX

Firm of N. Maria and Dem. Gounaris, Piraeus.

Senior Partner:

Nicholas Maria, at present lives at:  
66 Dudley Court,  
Upper Berkeley Street, W.1.

Is about 65 years of age, dropsical and has angina pectoris. He

/appears to

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195

E

18

E 3659

PALESTINE

2 MAY

Registry Number

E3659/48/31

FROM

P. Q.

No.

Mr. Kipton

Dated

Beamish

Received in Registry

28 April 1948  
2 May

Illegal Immigration  
Mr. Kipton Beamish asked for outline of recently discovered plan for illegal immigration of 125,000 Jews from U.S. Zone of Germany to Palestine, in May 1948. Stated, not aware of any plan of this nature, being recently discovered.

Last Paper.

3654

(Minutes.)

10 May 2

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

95/10/15

(Index.)

28/4/48

Next Paper.

E3667



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Reference: FO 371 / 61806

EASTERN

19

Parliamentary Question

\* 82. Major Tufton Beamish.—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, if he will state the outline of the recently discovered plan for the illegal emigration of about 125,000 Jews from the U.S. zone of Germany to Palestine and say what steps have been taken, and will be taken, in conjunction with the U.S. authorities to stop this plan being put into effect. [Monday 28th April.]

Lawes

ANSWERED 28 APR 1947  
REPLY ATTACHED.

E 3659

2 MAY

I have consulted the Colonial Office about this question. They have some experience of Major Tufton Beamish, and have found that he is not always accurate in his facts. It would seem that the "recently discovered plan" to which he refers is connected with a statement made by ~~the Jewish propagandist~~ Bernstein, who has said that there would be a mass exodus of Jews from Germany to Palestine.

I suggest the attached reply. *Co. Concur*

*Beith*

24th April, 1947.

BEITH

*P. J. Farran*  
25/4

*W. J. Foster*  
25/4

*W. S. Suttan*  
25/iv.

Jews, U.S. Zone

74. Major Beamish asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he will state the outline of the recently discovered plan for the illegal emigration of about 125,000 Jews from the U.S. zone of Germany to Palestine and say what steps have been taken, and will be taken, in conjunction with the U.S. authorities, to stop this plan being put into effect.

Mr. Mayhew: My right hon. Friend is not aware that any plan of this nature has recently been discovered.

(166)



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Mr. Heppel

The statement by Mr. Bernstein mentioned by the Colonial Office took the form of a press conference at which the speaker stated that 125,000 Jews from Europe were on the march to Palestine. Mr. Bernstein is the Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the Commander of the U.S. Zone of Germany. It is not of course certain that Major Tufton-Beamish is referring to this press conference, but it looks as if he may be.

As regards our representations to the United States Government, we have continued to press these but have not got much change out of the State Department. This question is dealt with in another P.Q. for answer to-day on the subject of press reports that the Major of New York had sponsored a drive to secure nearly £2 million for illegal immigration and terrorism in Palestine.

J. G. S. Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)

28th April, 1947.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61806



74

I am not aware that any plan of the nature described by the Hon. Member has recently been discovered. His Majesty's Government are continuing to take all possible measures to prevent the unauthorised movement of Jews through Europe leading to the departure of illegal immigrant ships for Palestine.

DRAFT REPLY

TO:

MAJOR TUFTON BEAMISH

\* 32.

MONDAY, 28th APRIL

I am not aware that any plan of the nature described by the Hon. Member has recently been discovered. His Majesty's Government are continuing to take all possible measures to prevent the unauthorised movement of Jews through Europe leading to the departure of illegal immigrant ships for Palestine.

125/4

MB

25/iv.

Sir,

- ② We are taking all possible measures to prevent illegal immigration.
- ③ We are in communication with the U.S. Govt. on the subject.

What was Bernstein's statement?

What can I say about our relations to U.S. Govt. - e.g. on Jewish advertising? The Home is very keen on all this.

CMM.

26/4

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1947

E  
PALESTINE

E 3675  
23  
2 MAY

Registry Number } E 3675/48/31  
TELEGRAM FROM  
No. *M. Weiff Cooper*  
Paris  
Dated  
Received in Registry } 348  
1 May 1947  
2

*Illegal Immigration*  
Refer # V. tel 672 (E 34480/48/21)  
State have arranged with my Foreign  
affair for talks to open May 12. They  
note that HMG will be sending four  
experts and they will produce representatives  
of my of Interior and of Dist Merchant  
Marine.

Last Paper. 7667  
~~7668~~

(Minutes.)  
JB May 10

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)  
8, Aligham. B.I.  
Dodd &  
Smith & Adanty  
Schoor Miss  
Garnay  
May 3

(Action completed.)  
P.C.W. 12/1

(Index.)  
10/4/48

Next Paper.  
E 3677

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<p>1047</p> <p>15</p>		<p>Palestine</p> <p>EASTERN</p>	<p>E 3677 / G</p> <p>2 MAY 1947</p> <p>25</p>
<p>E 3677 / 48 / G</p> <p>Angora</p> <p>Tel. no 338</p> <p>May 1st.</p>		<p>Illegal Immigration</p> <p>Rep. to his tel 288</p>	
<p>Last Paper.</p> <p>E 3667</p>		<p>Draft letter to Angora (Minutes.) &amp; memo attached</p> <p><i>Robt</i></p> <p>CF E (AR 44)</p> <p>4/5</p>	
<p>References.</p> <p>E 3123 / 48 / G</p>		<p>Report pp. 10-11</p> <p>J.B. May 6</p>	
<p>(Print.)</p>			
<p>(How disposed of.)</p> <p>2 pr) cancelled</p> <p>Angora</p> <p>from E Dept</p> <p>6 May.</p>			
<p>(Action completed.)</p> <p>DF</p>	<p>(Index.)</p> <p>W.H.</p>		
<p>Next Paper.</p> <p>E 3754</p> <p>(E 4368)</p>			

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61806**



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immigrants to Palestine, their ships are usually over-crowded, overloaded and un-seaworthy. We suggest, therefore, that you should consult your local legal

advisers on this point and urge the Turkish authorities to prevent shipping under their flag from being used in these conditions.

Yours ever,

Eastern Department,

J.B. May 6

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

FO 371 / 41806

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(E 3677/48/G)

FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1. 28

6th May, 1947.

Dear Chancery,

Please refer to our telegram No. 249 about the Jewish illegal immigration traffic. We note from your telegrams Nos. 288 and 338 that Turkish law makes it difficult for the local authorities to take any action to cancel the registry or prevent the sailing of such ships.

We have suggested to other posts that they should base their representations to foreign governments on the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1929 and the International Convention respecting Load Lines 1930. Unfortunately, Turkey is not a signatory of these Conventions. Nevertheless, we imagine it to be probable that Turkish law contains some specific provisions dealing with the loading and sea-worthiness of their shipping. As the normal practice of the organisers of this traffic is to overload the limited amount of tonnage which they possess in order to carry the maximum number of illegal immigrants to Palestine, their ships are usually over-crowded, overloaded and unseaworthy. We suggest, therefore, that you should consult your local legal advisers on this point and urge the Turkish authorities to prevent shipping under their flag from being used in these conditions.

Yours ever,

EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

The Chancery,  
British Embassy,  
Angora.

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Reference:

FO

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61806

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E

29

E 3009

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP.            CABINET DISTRIBUTION  
FROM ANGORA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Eyres.  
No. 288.  
1st May, 1947.

D. 3.56 p.m. 1st May, 1947.  
R. 8.00 p.m. 1st May, 1947.

Secret.

My telegram No. 288. *E/A E 3003/400/07*

Turkish ship engaged in illegal immigration traffic.

Further pressure on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has elicited information that it is impossible under Turkish law for ship's registration to be cancelled but it seems that it might be possible to take "administrative action" which would prevent ship from leaving Turkish waters.

I pressed for this to be done but I fear that no decision has yet been taken.

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Class ..... *371*

Piece ..... *61806*

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*E 3754/48/31*  
*E 3755*  
*E 3756*

and closed until..... *1998*

\*delete as necessary

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205

E

E 3779 30  
7 MAY

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number } E3779/48/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. W. Holman

Dated Bucharest.

Received in Registry } H.G.  
5 May 1947  
7 - -

Illegal Immigration, Roumania  
Refer Bucharest tel 442 (E2584/48/31)  
States, it will be seen from it, that the movement of this party of illegal immigrants has been prevented for the moment by Hungarian action, therefore proper to take no further action for moment, but is watching situation closely.

Last Paper.

3761

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

I.I. Dist.

May 12

(Action completed.)

7 PM 20/5

(Index.)

[Handwritten signature]

Next Paper.

E3790

(Minutes.)

usual I.I.P. distribution

please.

Southern Dept.  
W. 21/5  
16/5

H.B. May 8

G.P.P. Palestine tel 866 28/4

[Handwritten signature] 17/5

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2. E 31

FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Mr. Holman. D. 11.50 a.m. 5th May 1947.  
No. 461 R. 3.25 p.m. 5th May 1947.

5th May 1947

Repeated to: Jerusalem  
B.M.E.O. Cairo.

v v v

E 3779  
7 MAY

SECRET

w.o.  
Your telegram No. 407 repeating High Commission  
[? grp. omitted] telegram No. 866 to Secretary  
of State for Colonies.

Illegal immigration Balkans.

Message begins.

You will have seen from my telegram No. 442  
that the movement of this party of illegal  
immigrants has been prevented for the moment by  
Hungarian action. I propose therefore to take  
no further action for the moment but I am watching  
the situation closely.

Foreign Office please repeat to Jerusalem and  
B.M.E.O. Cairo as my telegrams Nos. 21 and 8  
respectively.

[Repeated to B.M.E.O. Cairo].

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial  
Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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INWARD TELEGRAM

14  
32

407 TO Bucharest

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

TO S. OF S., COLONIES.

D. 28th April, 1947.

R. 28th " " 18.30 hrs.

No. 866 Top Secret.

Addressed to the S. of S.

Repeated to Bucharest (S. of S. please pass as my  
(No. 596).

" " British Middle East Office (No. (corrupt  
group).

Your telegram No. 786 repeating Bucharest telegram  
to Foreign Office No. 419.

Illegal immigration Balkans.

I trust all possible steps will be taken to prevent  
departure for Palestine of this party of illegal immigrants,  
particularly since they are said to be Revisionists or  
Revisionist sympathisers and may, therefore, be presumed to  
include a substantial number of persons who will join terrorist  
organisations on arrival in Palestine if they are not members  
of such organisations already

(Copies to Cypher Room, Foreign Office,  
for repetition to Bucharest).

Distributed to:-

M.S.25  
Secretary of State  
Sir T. Lloyd  
Mr. I. Thomas  
Mr. Martin  
Sir D. Harris

Mr. Trafford Smith  
Mr. Mathieson  
Mr. Higham  
Mr. Bennett  
Mr. Eastwood  
Mr. Bigg.

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III 1947	Palestine EASTERN	E3491 /G 33 7 MAY 1947
E 3491 /48/9 <sup>31</sup> Mr. Huttie, C.M.G. to Mr. Henrick Dated 2 May Received 7 May.	Illegal immigration Enclosed minute to P.M. reporting result of Cabinet discussion.	
Last Paper. E3490	(Minutes.) See E3754/G a minute	
References.	Mr. Hambley - Major P.M. 19/5. Mr. S. Smith May 8 P.M. 15/5	
(Print.)		
(How disposed of.) Mr. G.P.H. P.M./4/30 ✓ 2 May.		
(Action completed.) 25/9/5	(Index.) W.P.	
Next Paper. E3862		

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Entered  
34  
6 MAY 1947

E3791

2nd May, 1947.

My dear Henniker,  
7 MAY 1947

I enclose a minute which the Foreign Secretary may care to send to the Prime Minister reporting the result of this morning's discussion about illegal immigration into Palestine.

I should be most grateful if you would let me know when the Foreign Secretary sends off this minute and whether he decides to alter it.

Yours sincerely,

*L. S. Murrice*

J.P.E.C. Henniker-Major, Esq., M.C.,  
Private Secretary to the  
Secretary of State,  
Foreign Office.



G. R.

E

Entered 34

6 MAY 1947

E3791

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Yours sincerely,

*W. S. Murray*

J.P.E.C. Henniker-Major, Esq., M.C.,  
Private Secretary to the  
Secretary of State,  
Foreign Office.

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PM/47/80

PRIME MINISTER

At yesterday's meeting of the Cabinet (C.M.(47) 42nd Conclusions, Minute 3) I was invited to consider with the Ministers concerned the proposal advocated by the Colonial Office and supported by the Foreign Office that His Majesty's ships should be authorised to arrest on the high seas any illegal immigrant ship whose flagstate had agreed to interception.

2. I discussed this proposal with the Minister of Defence, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the First Lord of the Admiralty and the Minister of Transport this morning, and we all agreed that, for the reasons put forward on behalf of the Admiralty at yesterday's Cabinet, it would be unwise to adopt it.

3. We all felt that it was essential that energetic action should be taken to stop the embarkation of illegal immigrants and we welcomed your decision that an Official Inter-departmental Committee should be set up at once to co-ordinate action in dealing with the problem of illegal immigration and, in particular, to consider all possible methods by which the traffic might be stopped at source. We also thought that one of the tasks of this Committee should be to collect evidence showing the extent to which the illegal traffic was being fostered in the United States in order to strengthen my hand in making representations to the United States Government.

4. I suggest that it might be convenient for the work of the Official Committee to be supervised by a small group of the Ministers most immediately concerned meeting informally under my chairmanship, on the understanding that

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G. R.

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We would refer to the Cabinet or the Defense Committee, as the case might be, any questions requiring consideration by one or other of these bodies.

5. I should add that meanwhile I am taking special steps to see whether we cannot stop the embarkation of illegal immigrants in the "President Warfield", which is reported to be in Genoa.

*Handwritten signature*

MAY, 1947.

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P.M./47/80.

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 illegal/

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be/

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- 3 -

be, any questions requiring consideration by one or other of these bodies.

5. I should add that meanwhile I am taking special steps to see whether we cannot stop the embarkation of illegal immigrants in the "President Warfield", which is reported to be in Genoa.

(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN

2nd May, 1947.

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Piece ..... 61806

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E

E 3803  
8 MAY 40

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number	E3803/48/31
FROM	P.Q.
No.	M/r Tufton -
Dated	Beamish
Received in Registry	5, May 1947 8

Illegal Immigration.  
Major Tufton Beamish. asked what arrangements have been made to counter Zionist plots for illegal immigration of Jews from Europe. Mr McNeill. It would clearly lower efficiency of measures taken, if such were made public, but gave assurance that measures were vigorous, extensive, and varied.

Last Paper.

3791

(Minutes.)

B May 8

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Action completed.)

*[Signature]*

(Index.)

*[Signature]*  
1947/48

Next Paper.

3802

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EASTERN

E41

Parliamentary Question

\* 18. Major Tufton Beamish.—To ask the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, what arrangements have been made to counter Zionist plans for the illegal emigration of Jews from Europe to Palestine; which countries have been asked to co-operate in these arrangements; which countries have agreed to co-operate fully; and which countries have either refused to co-operate or offered only partial co-operation.  
[Monday 5th May.]

U

Lewis

5 MAY 1947  
REPLY ATTACHED

E 3803  
8 MAY

If we were to reply to Major Tufton Beamish's question in full, we should have to write the longest note on Jewish illegal immigration yet prepared. It is of course out of the question to go into the details required by Major Beamish, if only because the publication of the measures we are taking would greatly help the organisers of the illegal immigrant traffic in their work.

Draft reply attached. C. C. Conner

J. G. S. Beith

(J.G.S. Beith)

3rd May, 1947.

~~Major Tufton Beamish's question~~

R. G. G. G.  
3/5

W. M. M. M.  
3/5

M. G. G. G.  
3/5.

6.  
MAY 1947

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RECEIVED IN O.B.  
 7 MAY 1947  
 SENT TO DEPT.  
 7 MAY 1947

23. Major Tuffon Beamish asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what arrangements have been made to counter Zionist plans for the illegal emigration of Jews from Europe to Palestine; which countries have been asked to co-operate in these arrangements; which countries have agreed to co-operate fully; and which countries have either refused to co-operate, or offered only partial co-operation.

Mr. McNeil: It would clearly lessen the efficiency of the measures taken against illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine if these measures were made public, but I hope the hon. and gallant Gentleman will accept my assurance that the measures are vigorous, extensive and varied in character.

Major Beamish: Will the Minister say whether the arrangements are effective?

Mr. McNeil: To some degree.

Mr. Anthony Nutting: Can the Minister say what is the use of asking Governments, such as has been done in the case of Italy, to stop the emigration of Jews to Palestine while taking no steps, or, at least, very few steps, to see that organisations such as U.N.R.R.A. do not encourage Jewish emigration to Palestine through such countries?

Mr. McNeil: I could not accept the assumption made by the hon. Gentleman, but he may be quite sure that we are in close contact with the Italian Government in connection with the many difficulties involved.

Mr. Nutting: Obviously, the Italians do not want these Jews in Italy, and if they are dumped on them, surely, the Minister must realise that they are only too anxious to get them out.

7 MAY 1947

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23

Draft reply  
to P.Q. No. 13.  
Major Tufton Beamish.  
2nd May, 1947.

*MB*  
3/5

*MB*  
3/5

I do not consider that it would be appropriate or desirable to make public the measures of His Majesty's Government to prevent the illegal immigration of Jews into Palestine or the representations which they have made to foreign governments on the subject. I can <sup>however</sup> ~~further~~ assure the Honorable and Gallant Member that everything possible is being done.

*MB*  
*MB*

*It would do less harm in effect  
of the measures taken against the illegal  
immigration of Jews into Palestine. If these  
measures were made public, but I take  
the other matter. Sentences will accept. My  
assured that the measures are ~~not~~ necessary  
given the varied character*

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1947

112

Palestine

EASTERN

E3862 / G 44

5 MAY 1947

E 3862 48 1/9

Illegal Jewish activities in  
Czech - Teachen area

Mr Scherr  
M.I.5  
to Mr Beith  
SF215 / 3 / 1332 / FS  
Dated 30 April  
Received 9 May.

Reports information regarding  
above.

Last Paper.

E3491

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Off Mr. Robertson  
M.I.5 from Mr Beith  
May 13th

(Action  
completed.)

DF 14/5

(Index.)

WPA

Next Paper.

E 3865

(Minutes.)  
This report is typical of many received from M.I. 5  
in that the information it contains should  
obviously be passed direct to the Mission  
concerned. I have asked that Mr. Scherr to have  
this done in this particular case, but it ought  
always to be done as a matter of routine.  
I submit a draft accordingly.

*[Signature]*  
(S.E.CABLER)  
9/5

See by Mr. Beith.  
*[Signature]* 10/5

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R. ENT 6050.  
WHITEHALL 6789.

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SECRET 45  
entel  
green  
BOX No. 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.  
LONDON, S.W.1.

SF.215/3/B.3.a/ES.

9 MAY 1947

30th April 1947.

E 3862

Dear Beith,

The following account of illegal Jewish activities in the CZECH-  
TESCHEN district may be of interest to you.

The Jewish community of CZECH-TESCHEN is reported to be actively engaged in assisting Jews to escape from Poland and Hungary and in the smuggling of goods over the Czech-Polish border. Illegal Jewish refugees are provided with forged passports and papers, and young Jews are organised to help in smuggling them through to Germany, France and Italy en route for Palestine.

The activities of the TESCHEN Jewish community are financed from a special Jewish National Fund in PRAGUE by a certain BOCK, who is head of the whole Jewish community of Czechoslovakia, and whose H.Q. is at Maislova Str. 18, PRAGUE, I. Members of the TESCHEN Jewish organisation include the following:-

Mr. WERTHEIMER-SIMON  
2 brothers FEIGENBAUM  
Mr. KLAUSENSTOCK & 2 sisters  
Mr. AMSTERDAM  
Mr. ADLER  
Josef TELLER  
Miss FISHEIMER & sister  
Messrs. PILLER (3-4 brothers & cousin).

One of the most active and dangerous of the above-mentioned is reported to be Miss FISHEIMER, who is employed in a small sweetshop in Stalina Str. 16, CZECH-TESCHEN, run by another woman who is engaged in similar activities. Miss FISHEIMER's sister works in the next town, through which the escaping Jews also pass.

The PILLER brothers and cousin are described as the most dangerous amongst the men, one of the brothers being stationed at TURIN, where he is a leader of the Jewish underground organisation. Source gives the address of a hiding-place where illegal Jewish refugees are to be found as Vitkova Str. 13, CZECH-TESCHEN.

The principal interest in this is the mention it makes of Mr. AMSTERDAM. He is presumably identical with Alfred AMSTERDAM of Koci 18, PRESSBURG, a known contact of Arthur PIER @ BEN ZWI, an Austrian Jew journalist representing PALCOR and various other Palestinian news agencies in Austria, Germany and the mid-European countries. PIER has for some time been an active member of the BRICHA organisation which, as you know, assists Jews from Eastern Europe to reach European ports en route for Palestine. PIER, who operates from Frankgasse 2, VIENNA, controls the Austrian side of this movement and also travels regularly to the U.S. Zone of Germany in this

/connection.

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.,  
Foreign Office.

J. Higham, Esq.,  
Colonial Office.

Major P. Telfer-Smollett, M.C.,  
M.I.3(a), War Office.

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REGENT 6080.  
WHITEHALL 6789.

BOX No. 500,  
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

connection. Before arriving in Austria he lived at an agricultural centre in Palestine, and is now hoping to become a Palestinian citizen. His contact with AMSTERDAM may well indicate that the TESCHEN group is part of the BRICHA organisation.

At almost the same time as we received the TESCHEN report, information was obtained on another Jewish organisation with which AMSTERDAM is connected. This is the "International Association for the Assistance of ex-Concentration Camp Inmates and Refugees", based at the Rothschild Hospital, VIENNA. The Association has branches in BRATISLAVA, PRAGUE and BUDAPEST, and a certain Jakob WEISS and Arthur PIER, among others, are actively engaged on its behalf in transporting groups of Jews into Austria, whence they presumably move to coastal areas. The crossing of the Austro-Czech frontier is made at MARCHEGG, DEVINSKA, NOVA VES and other small villages. The representative of the Association in BRATISLAVA is Alfred AMSTERDAM, while PRAGUE and BUDAPEST are covered by Friedl RAFFI and by Dr. Alexander NATHAN respectively.

RAFFI is probably identical with Friedl OFFI of Josefska 7, PRAGUE, a known BRICHA address. OFFI has been known for some time as a contact of PIER. If this identification is correct, it seems likely that the International Association is yet another Jewish group either sponsored by or closely collaborating with the BRICHA organisation.

Yours sincerely,

*D.J. Scherr*

D.J. Scherr.

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Registry  
No. E 3862E/49/6  
J.E.C.

Top Secret.  
Secret.  
Confidential.  
Restricted.  
Open.

Draft. *HA*  
Mr. T. A.  
Robertson.

(from Mr. Beith)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

and this fact  
could be noted

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

13<sup>th</sup> May 1947.

12c

47

SECRET

Dear Robertson,

We receive a number of reports from your *dept.* on various aspects of Jewish illegal immigration into Palestine. In many cases these reports contain information on activities in a particular country or countries, which would obviously be of great interest to our Mission in the country affected. Unfortunately it is not always clear to us whether or not the Mission has already received this information, *though it usually surprises that they have.* It would greatly assist us if, as a

general rule, you would inform the appropriate Missions *could receive such info. direct* on your letter

to us *was a matter of routine JB mms* This would enable us to draw the attention of the Mission to your report without the necessity of ourselves copying it to them. Furthermore it would do away with the need for us to ring up your office every time we receive a report, in order to enquire whether it had actually been passed to the Mission concerned or not.

An example of the type of report I mean is *SCHERR'S* ~~Sherr's~~ letter (SF 215/3/B3A/ES) of 30th April about illegal Jewish activities in the Czech-Teschen district. This report will obviously be valuable to our *Embassy at* ~~Minister~~ in Prague and I have asked *SCHERR* ~~Mr. Sherr~~ to arrange for M.I.6 to pass it to him *(and possibly also*

I would be most grateful if you could arrange for future reports to be handled *on these lines as suggested above*

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FOREIGN OFFICE, S. W. 1.

13th May, 1947.

(E 3862/48/G)

SECRET

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It would greatly assist us if, as a general rule, the appropriate Missions could

receive

T. A. Robertson, Esq.,  
M.I.5.

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49

receive such information direct  
and this fact could be noted on  
your letter to us as a matter of  
routine.

*Yours sincerely*

*J. G. S. Beith*

*JG*

(J. G. S. Beith)

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1947

Palestine

EASTERN

E3943/G 50

2 MAY 1947

E 3943 / 48/G

The Fowler,  
Ragucigalpa.  
Tel. no. 16.  
May 9th

Illegal Jewish Immigration.  
Rep. to FO. tel. no 12 (E3513/48/G)  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
has approved record of censuses  
regarding ships under the  
Honduras flag.

Last Paper.

E3896

References.

This is what <sup>(minutes)</sup> we wanted. Please see E3513  
copies to:  
Admiralty  
Colonial Office  
M.I. 5 (with names)

*[Signature]*  
(S.E. CABLE)  
13/5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) MIS  
Adm  
C.O.  
✓  
17th May.

(Action completed.)

25/9/5

(Index.)

WPH.

Next Paper.

E3944

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CYPHER/OTP

*53943*  
DEPARTMENTAL NO: 8

*12 MAY 1947*  
FROM TEGUCIGALPA TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr Fowler.

D.3.50 p.m. 9th May 1947 *51*

No:16

9th May 1947

R 2.55 a.m. 10th May 1947

4444 3513/48

Your telegram No:12 of April 30th. *E/G*

Illegal Jewish Immigration.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs has approved in writing the record of our conversations including Statement that agreement covers all ships under the Honduras flag

RECEIVED IN O. B.  
12 MAY 1947  
SENT TO DEPT.  
12 MAY 1947

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1947

E

E 3947

52

PALESTINE

13 MAY

Registry Number } E3947/48/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Mr. Leiff Cooper

Dated Paris

Received in Registry } 393  
12 May 1947  
13 - -

Illegal Immigration, Working in France.

Refer Paris tel 392. 31/7/47

- take atmosphere of meeting decidedly friendly  
consider French are prepared to make genuine  
effort to help in checking this traffic.  
Give further points.

Last Paper.

3946

References.

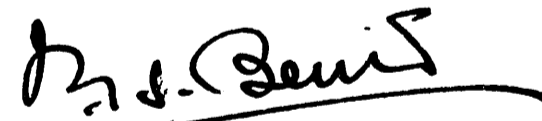
(Minutes.)  
Please see also NO. 392 at E3979 attached.German Dept. 12/1/47  
Western Dept.R. G. S. Beith  
(C.S. & CABLE)  
13/5

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

I.S. sent  
See Mem  
May 13.

The Embassy at Paris are of course very keen that we should meet the French Government over recruitment of German workers, and I know that Mr. Ashley Clarke would wish Eastern Department to support this telegram. It certainly is true that the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs have been quite forthcoming in our recent discussions on illegal immigration. Unfortunately, they do not control other Government departments. I feel that we can hardly press that satisfaction be given quickly to the French Government over German workers at present. Later on, if French control of illegal immigration proves really effective at last, the position will be quite different.



(J.G.S. Beith)

17th May, 1947.

From the point of view of Western Dept. the question of German workers for France has a different aspect.

It is important to remember (a) that it has nothing whatever to do with the transit affairs (b) that our object is to assist the French and not

(Action completed.)



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3974

32008 F.O.P.

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not to extract concessions in  
other fields. Negotiations are  
proceeding on this basis

43

Amberg  
882

this is a bit out of date, now  
June 13

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E 3947

13 MAY

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

CYPHER/OTP

54  
END

FROM PARIS TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Duff Cooper.  
No. 393.

D: 1.10 a.m. 13th May, 1947.

12th May, 1947.

R: 4.15 a.m. 13th May, 1947.

Repeated to: Berlin.

@@@ @@@ @@@

MOST IMMEDIATE

Foreign Office please repeat to Berlin as my telegram  
No. 59.

My immediately preceding telegram.

SECRET

Illegal Jewish immigration.

Atmosphere of meeting was decidedly friendly and I consider that French are prepared to make genuine effort to help in checking this traffic. Scrutiny of visas of ultimate destination and strict enforcement of safety of life at sea regulations which we had already been promised combined [grp.undec. ? with] stoppage of irregular trains entering French zones of Germany and Austria should result in greatly diminishing flow of illegal immigrants through France. [grp.undec.] measures which we managed to secure though secondary should also contribute to this end.

2. It is essential however that we should co-operate by receiving back into our zones persons clandestinely entering French zones from [grps.undec.] persuading Americans to do likewise.

3. Naturally French response to our demands is partly inspired by a lively sense of favours to come and I trust that your instructions on subject of German labour will be such as to enable us to clinch matter. I should emphasise that much depends on manner in which French carry out these measures. Some of them such as administrative delay of ships in ballast are highly unefficient. But I believe that French authorities especially those coming under Department of Merchant Marine will in fact effectively carry them out. They will be the more encouraged to do so if our response to French requirements over recruitment of labour is generous.

We agreed that there should be no publicity.

[Repeated to Berlin.]

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